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CLEMATIS



...The Vine Beautiful



which climbing by means of twining leafstalks, grow from six to sixty feet tall. In general they are free flowering, many sorts extraordinarily so. Some blossom in the spring, quite a number in the autumn but by far the greatest number bloom continuously throughout the summer to early fall. No other group of climbing plants produce so large blossoms and none boasts such a wide range of color.

The flowers vary in size from about one inch to eight inches; in form they may be tubular, star-like, platter-like or urn-shape. The colors range from bright red and pure blue through varying shades of red and magenta to rich purple tones. In a great number the flowers are white, in some they are pure pink and in the others lilac or lavender.

SINCE this organization has attained the distinction of being the largest producers of Clematis plants in the United States, it is proper to have a greater portion of this folder devoted to descriptions of these several varieties.

Clematis are cosmopolitan plants, rich in virtues of surpassing merit. A few of the members are little more than herbaceous perennials but the vast majority are plants,

What many species lack in size of blossom, they make up for in quantity, whilst a pleasant fragrance is an attribute of the rank and file. Some are ever-green but the greatest number lose their leaves in autumn.

The common name of Virgin's Bower portrays their graceful habit of growth and wealth of wreathing blossoms. They are indeed joyous plants and as befitting such demand that their upper parts at least bask in the sun's full presence. Certain species are handsome when past flowering on account of the large fluffy heads of silken fruit.

CARE AND PLANTING
IN planting it is best to place them on the west or south west of a wall or trellis, so that they may enjoy some protection in the early spring, but as they burst into growth they should not lack free air and sunlight. One other and very important point indeed,—Clematis are lime loving plants. When this Mineral is not naturally present in the soil, it should be added. Some grow well in ordinary garden soils, but all are benefitted by a dressing of lime. Clematis, like human beings,

of boulders and cliffs. They are gross feeders delighting in rich, well drained loam and abundance of leaf-mould.

ORIGIN

THE large-flowered Clematis are of mixed parentage and obscure origin. It is doubtful if some of the printed stories concerning them have foundation in fact. The original Clematis of this class, is supposed to be *C. Hendersoni*, which is said to have been obtained about 1830 by crossing *C. Viticella* and *C. Integrifolia*. In truth *C. Hendersoni* is not far removed and is probably a form of *C. Viticella* which is a native of Southern Europe and grown in gardens since the Sixteenth Century.

However, the *Viticella* and *Hendersoni* best claims to fame are as part parents to *Jackmani*.

The *Jackmani*, probably the most popular of



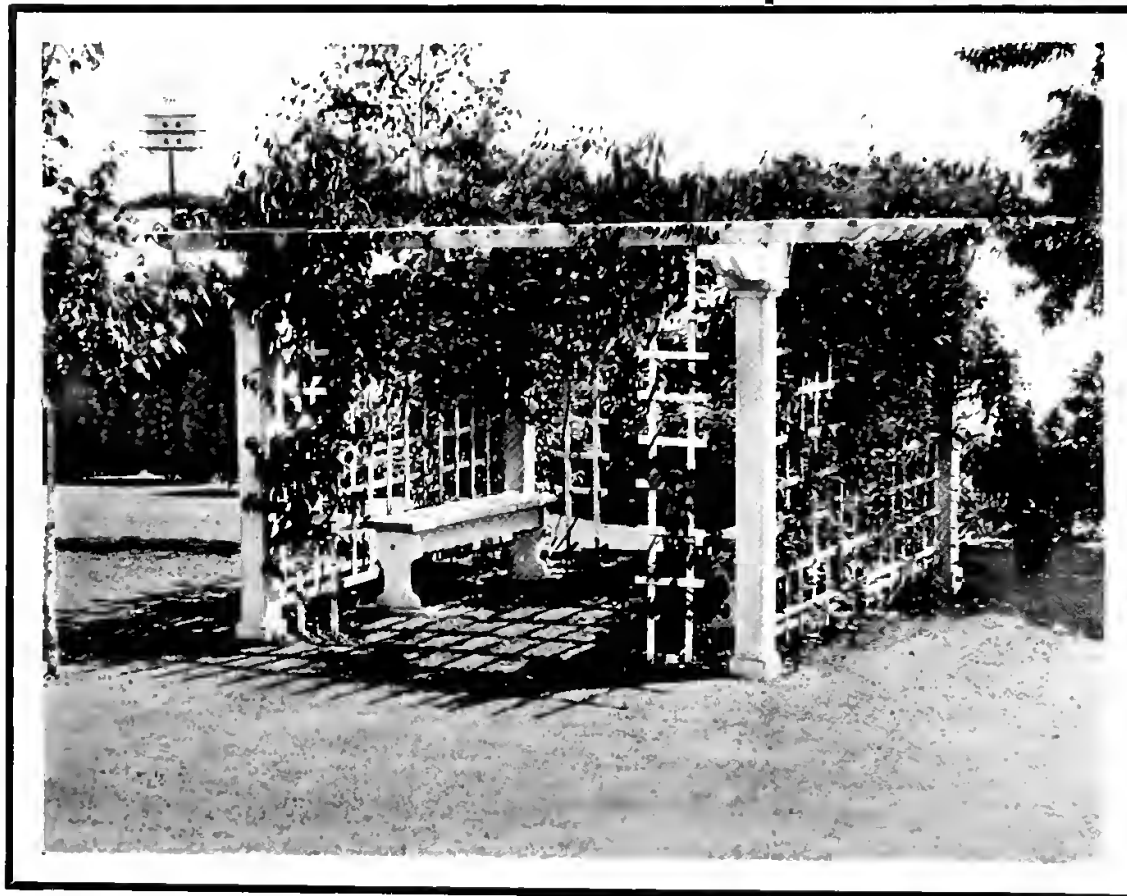
All views on this page show the *Jackmani* variety, and were taken on our premises.

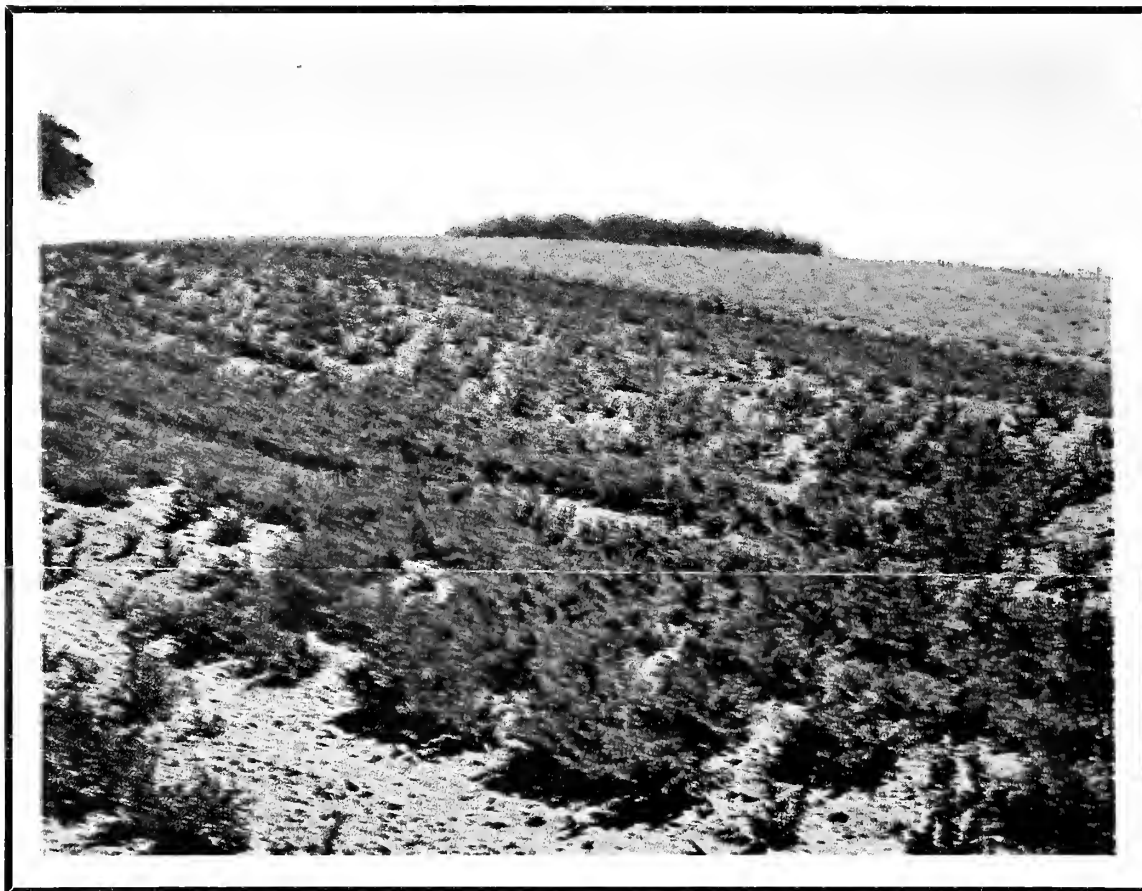
Upper—Close-up corner of Arbor.

Lower left—Full view of Arbor.

Lower right—Small portion of field of one hundred thousand plants.

object to draughts about their feet and ankles. They are best accommodated against walls or trellises attached to buildings; also they make a glorious tangle over rocks or old tree-stumps and, aided by twiggy branches, form hummock like masses in borders. In nature Clematis are mostly denizens of thickets and margins of woods; some court the shelter





all the Clematis family, has flowers of varying shades of purple and each measure from four to five inches across. This has been a prime favorite for more than half a century. Where happy, they are vigorous growers delighting in sunshine and blossoming freely from July to October.

Altho the Clematis species boasts of a score or more of these varieties, there are but a few obtainable in this country.

After thirty-two years as Clematis Specialists we list besides the Jackmani, which has been described in a foregoing paragraph, five of the most beautiful and outstanding varieties. They are all large-flowered and form a most gorgeous group with platter-like blossoms; these are produced in rich abundance.

In point of hardiness, they are much like the Jackmani carrying rich, deep foliage,

which form an ideal covering for topping a wall or clothing a trellis.

Duchess of Edinburgh are endowed with large double-white blossoms, Henryi with eight inch broad flowers, Ramona with light blue and Mme. Edward Andre with dark crimson flowers.

Madam Baron-Villard, a vigorous grower, carries full pink blossoms and comes into being through crossing of the various and most lovely varieties.

Continuous propagation and experimenting is in full swing throughout the year, with our large organization ever on the jump for new and better Clematis Varieties.

Eight large green houses, together with unlimited out-door planting facilities has gradually enabled us to propagate yearly, two hundred thousand fine, vigorous plants.

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